

## MINUTES

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room  
John A. Hannah Building  
608 West Allegan  
Lansing, Michigan

February 8, 2005  
9:00 a.m.

Present: Dr. Jeremy M. Hughes, Acting Superintendent, Chairman  
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus, President  
Mr. John C. Austin, Vice President  
Mrs. Carolyn L. Curtin, Secretary  
Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire, Treasurer  
Mrs. Nancy Danhof, NASBE Delegate (via telephone)  
Mr. Reginald M. Turner  
Mrs. Eileen Lappin Weiser  
Ms. Sue C. Carnell, representing Governor Jennifer M. Granholm,  
ex officio

Also Present: Mrs. Heidi Capraro, 2004-2005 Michigan Teacher of the Year

Absent: Mrs. Elizabeth W. Bauer

### **REGULAR MEETING**

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Hughes called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

#### II. INFORMATIONAL FOLDER ITEMS

- A. Information on Out-of-State Travel Costs
- B. MDE/ISD Partnership Matrix Update

#### III. AGENDA FOLDER ITEMS

- A. Discussion Regarding Search for Superintendent of Public Instruction
- B. Update on High School Redesign Team and Cherry Commission Report Recommendations
- C. Report on Consent Agenda

#### IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

- A. Acceptance of Resignation of Tom Watkins, State Superintendent of Public Instruction – added to agenda
- B. Appointment of Jeremy M. Hughes as Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction – added to agenda
- C. Discussion Regarding Search for Superintendent of Public Instruction – added to agenda
- D. Report on a Modification to the Previously Approved Montcalm Area Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services – added to agenda
- E. Report on a Modification to the Previously Approved Calhoun Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services – added to agenda
- F. Report on the Eaton Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services – added to agenda

**Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Mrs. Curtin, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority, as modified.**

**Ayes: Austin, Curtin, Danhof, Straus, Turner, Weiser**  
**Absent: Bauer, McGuire**

**The motion carried.**

V. ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF TOM WATKINS, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Straus assumed the Chair to present Acceptance of Resignation of Tom Watkins, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Weiser, that the State Board of Education accept the resignation of Tom Watkins as Superintendent of Public Instruction, effective March 9, 2005, with the conditions mentioned in his letter of resignation dated January 29, 2005, excluding condition #1 since it is not within the power of the Board, and including a modified condition #5 pursuant to the advice of the Attorney General's Office.**

Mrs. Straus thanked Mr. Watkins for nearly four years of outstanding service as Superintendent of Public Instruction. She said he lifted up teachers and public education; gave people pride in their jobs; listened to

parents, teachers, and students, and was responsive to their needs. She said she feels fortunate to have worked with him, he contributed greatly, and we all learned from him. She said it is now time to move forward.

Mrs. Weiser said she wishes him much success in future endeavors, because he has much to offer. Mr. Turner said he agrees with Mrs. Weiser's comment.

Mrs. Curtin said she appreciated the fact that Mr. Watkins remained professional throughout very trying circumstances.

Mrs. McGuire joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m. She said she would have liked Mr. Watkins to remain in the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and she is sorry that he is resigning.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Curtin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Turner, Weiser**  
**Absent: Bauer**

**The motion carried.**

VI. APPOINTMENT OF JEREMY M. HUGHES AS ACTING SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Straus presented Appointment of Jeremy M. Hughes as Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Curtin, that the State Board of Education (1) appoint Jeremy M. Hughes Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction until March 9, 2005, the effective date of Tom Watkins' resignation; and (2) appoint Dr. Hughes as Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction effective March 10, 2005, until a new Superintendent of Public Instruction is named and assumes the position.**

Mrs. Straus said it is fortunate that Dr. Hughes is the Chief Academic Officer and Deputy Superintendent and is willing to accept the responsibility of Superintendent of Public Instruction. She said the Board has great confidence in him.

Dr. Hughes said he accepts the compliment on behalf of Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent, and staff who have continued to work diligently to maintain the focus of the Department as set forth by the Board.

Mrs. Straus said the Board is very appreciative of the staff's commitment, and hard work to improve student achievement and ensure that children succeed.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Curtin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Turner, Weiser**  
**Absent: Bauer**

**The motion carried.**

VII. DISCUSSION REGARDING SEARCH FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Straus presented Discussion Regarding Search for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Mrs. Straus said it is important to act expeditiously, efficiently, and effectively in selecting the next Superintendent of Public Instruction, and comply with all requirements of the Open Meetings Act. She said she has developed proposed criteria and a timeline to assist in the discussion.

Mrs. Straus said the Board has the Constitutional responsibility to select the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Governor is an ex officio member of the Board. She said the candidate will need to work effectively with the Board, Governor, Legislature, business community, educators, associations, unions, and the public.

Mrs. Weiser said that a search firm is not necessary if the Board agrees to appoint a subcommittee including Executive Committee members Mrs. Straus, Mr. Austin, and Mrs. Curtin; as well as Mr. Turner. She said she has concerns about the short time line, and proposes a 90-day time line.

Mrs. McGuire said the proposed timeline is too short to accommodate deadlines for educational publications. She said she agrees that a search firm is not necessary; however she would like a Committee of the Whole to screen all applications.

Mr. Austin said he favors a subcommittee to refine the criteria and time line, with input from the Governor's Office and other educational stakeholders.

Dr. Hughes said many candidates may request confidentiality in the application process, and a subcommittee would be able to accommodate that request. Mrs. Straus said executive sessions would also accommodate confidentiality.

Mr. Turner said he favors a subcommittee, but it is important that all Board members have confidence in the process. He said the goal is that the candidate would receive unanimous approval of the Board, and have been identified and evaluated with the assistance of the Governor.

Mrs. Danhof said she favors a Committee of the Whole approach, so that the candidate will have the opportunity to be successful, and have the full confidence of the Board. She said the process should be highly credible.

Mrs. Weiser said she would like skills and qualifications to include a professional commitment and vision for supporting accountability as it relates to the No Child Left Behind Act, and other federal legislation. She said the candidate should be effective in communicating with federal governmental agencies and the legislature.

Mr. Austin said he would like the criteria to include commitment and experience in closing achievement gaps, and advancing attention to underachieving schools.

Mrs. Danhof said she would like to see more action statements.

Dr. Hughes suggested that parents, educators, Department employees, associations, and the community be included in the process. He suggested including writing samples and presentations by the candidates.

Mrs. Straus said the Network of Michigan Educators have offered their assistance. Mrs. Curtin said she has also received input from educators and parents.

Mrs. Weiser said the Legislature should also be included, if possible.

By consensus, the Board agreed to further discuss this item during the afternoon portion of the Regular Meeting.

VIII. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS, DEPARTMENT STAFF, AND GUESTS

Mrs. Eileen Hamilton, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education, Department of Education staff, and guests.

IX. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 10:17 a.m. to convene as a Committee of the Whole.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

X. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Hughes called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

XI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Presentation on Grade Level Content Expectations for Social Studies

The following individuals presented:

- Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul, Director, Office of School Improvement
- Ms. Betty Underwood, Assistant Director, Curriculum and Instruction, Office of School Improvement

XII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

XIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (cont.)

B. Presentation on School Improvement Framework

The following individuals presented:

- Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul, Director, Office of School Improvement
- Dr. Edward Roeber, Senior Executive Director, Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability
- Dr. Bruce Fay, Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency
- Mr. Pat Traster, Calhoun Intermediate School District
- Ms. Tamara Bashore-Berg, Ingham Intermediate School District

C. Update on High School Redesign Team and Cherry Commission Report Recommendations

The following individuals presented:

- Ms. Gail Shenkman, Principal, Dearborn High School
- Mr. Chuck Breiner, Superintendent, Howell Public Schools

XIV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:02 p.m.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **XV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

- A. Approval of Record of Committee of the Whole and Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 11, 2005.

**Mrs. Danhof moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education approve the Record of Committee of the Whole and Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 11, 2005.**

**Ayes: Austin, Curtin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Turner,  
Weiser**

**Absent: Bauer**

**The motion carried.**

### **XVI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- A. Moving Forward and Structural Deficit

Mrs. Straus said much of the past month was spent on issues relating to the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction. She said the Board Subcommittee comprised of Mrs. Curtin, Mr. Turner, and she, has met and will continue to meet with legislators regarding "Structural Issues Surrounding School Funding in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Mrs. Straus said it is necessary to look at new ways of doing things, including expenditures as well as revenue. She said the Governor's Office is very interested in the adequacy, excellence and effectiveness study. She said public forums will be planned throughout the state in the spring.

- B. North Central Regional Educational Laboratory Education Session for New Legislators

Mrs. Straus said she, Mrs. Bauer, and Mrs. Danhof attended the North Central Regional Educational Laboratory (NCREL) Session for New Legislators focusing on educational issues. She said Mr. Tom Clay, Director of State Affairs, Citizens Research Council, provided information on the budget; and Mr. Paul Kimmelman, Legislative Director, NCREL, presented an overview on the implications of the No Child Left Behind Act.

She said the session was very informative and attended by many legislators and their staff members. She said it was coordinated by Mr. Robert Morris, Legislative Director; and Ms. MaryAlice Galloway, Special Assistant to the Chief Academic Officer.

## XVII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

### Reports

- F. Report on Property Transfers
- T. Report on a Modification to the Previously Approved Montcalm Area Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services
- U. Report on a Modification to the Previously Approved Calhoun Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services
- V. Report on the Eaton Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

### Grants

- G. 2004-2005 SM-4890a, Application for School Bus Driver Safety Education, Sec. 74 State Aid – Initial
- H. 2004 Team Nutrition Grant – Initial
- I. 2004-2005 Special Projects Grants Under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Funding for FY 2005 – Amendment
- J. 2004-2005 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate Subsidy Grants – Initial and Amendment

Dr. Hughes provided an oral report on the following:

- A. Board Briefs

Dr. Hughes said the first “Board Briefs” weekly update was mailed to Board members on February 4, 2005. He said “Board Briefs” will be mailed to Board members each Friday, to update them on current issues.

- B. Department Communication

Dr. Hughes said he and Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent, are trying to attend one office staff meeting per week. He said this will give them the opportunity to share information from the Superintendent’s Office as well as gather information from each of the offices. Dr. Hughes said that communication was the first priority identified by staff in the



Department strategic planning sessions that were held in January, 2004. He said a biweekly newsletter, "TGIF", will be e-mailed to Department staff.

C. Detroit Public Schools Deficit Reduction Plan

Dr. Hughes said on February 4, 2005, he signed a letter to Detroit Public Schools announcing receipt of its deficit reduction plan. He said the plan is currently under review by Department staff.

D. Press Release Regarding Unspent Federal Funds

Dr. Hughes said United States Representative Mike Rogers and Michigan Speaker of the House Craig DeRoche issued a press release on February 4, 2005 regarding unspent federal funds.

Dr. Hughes said last year the United States Department of Education told states that they could apply to recapture lapsed funds for re-use. He said Michigan applied to recapture the funds, but was denied along with 48 other states.

Dr. Hughes said approximately 95% of federal funds received by the Michigan Department of Education flow through the Department to school districts. He said sometimes school districts are unable to spend the entire amount due to unforeseen circumstances. He said the funds in question were 1998 funds. He said the Department is instituting processes to more closely monitor more closely the use of federal funds by local educational agencies.

Mr. Turner asked if intermediate school districts could help by providing technical assistance in addressing systemic issues of unspent funds, and Dr. Hughes said he would ask Mrs. Wolenberg to explore the issue with the intermediate school district partnership.

In response to Mrs. Curtin's question, Dr. Hughes said the Department will respond to Congressman Rogers and Speaker DeRoche.

Mrs. Weiser asked if phase 3, 4, and 5 high priority schools are among the districts with unspent funds. She asked if unspent funds can be redirected toward high priority schools that would spend the funds. Dr. Hughes said an analysis can be done to determine this.

#### XVIII. REPORT BY MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mrs. Heidi Capraro, 2004-2005 Teacher of the Year, presented Report on Michigan Teacher of the Year Activities.

Mrs. Capraro said she has been working with teachers and solicited their comments regarding science grade level content expectations, and she anxiously awaits the day when they are available for use by classroom teachers.

She said January 19-22, 2005, she attended an intense National Teacher of the Year Conference in Dallas where she met with teachers from across the nation. She said she appreciates the technology and training that has been donated by the SMARTer Kids Foundation.

She said she attended the Education Policy Fellowship Program on January 26-29, 2005, and she is thankful to be able to participate in the program. She said it provides a great opportunity for learning.

#### XIX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

- A. Mr. George Wurtzel, 1220 North Washington, Lansing, Michigan 48906. Mr. Wurtzel, Executive Director, Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, provided comments on Camp Tuhsmeheeta.
- B. Mr. Rich Ham-Kucharski, 42033 Saratoga, Canton, Michigan 48187. Mr. Ham-Kucharski provided comments on selection criteria for Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- C. Mr. Tom Strack, 1340 Franklin, Marne, Michigan 49435. Mr. Strack provided comments on Mr. Watkins departure.
- D. Ms. Judith Karns, 4317 West Farrand Road, Clio, Michigan 48420. Ms. Karns shared comments on checks and balances for children out of school.
- E. Ms. Theresa Saunders, 455 Marion Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197. Ms. Saunders, representing Highland Park Schools, commented on school finance reform.
- F. Mrs. Mary Bridget Monaghan, 3603 Sawgrass Circle, Lansing, Michigan 48911. Mrs. Monaghan shared comments on Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- G. Mr. Tom VanHoven, 1417 Gerry Drive, Jackson, Michigan 49202. Mr. VanHoven provided comments and written information on the No Child Left Behind Act.

- H. Mr. Mike DeVault, Ms. Gayle Green, Mr. Bill Putney, and Ms. Judy Pritchett, Macomb Intermediate School District, 44001 Garfield, Clinton Township, Michigan 48038. The members of the Macomb County Superintendents Association provided comments on the No Child Left Behind Accountability Plan for Michigan.
- I. Mrs. Mary T. Wood, 27533 Santa Ana, Warren, Michigan 48093. Ms. Wood provided comments on charter schools.
- J. Ms. Susan Peters, 4542 Oakwood Drive, Okemos, Michigan 48864. Ms. Peters shared comments on universal education.
- K. Ms. Shari Krishnan, 1550 Brandywine, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304. Ms. Krishnan provided comments on the search for Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- L. Ms. Sandy Spencer, 8506 Garbow Drive, Alto, Michigan 49302. Ms. Spencer commented on her son's educational experience.

XX. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were no awards and recognitions.

XXI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular meeting to reconvene as a Committee of the Whole at 2:20 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

XXII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

D. Report on Statewide Support of High Priority Schools

The following individuals presented:

- Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul, Director, Office of School Improvement
- Dr. Edward Roeber, Senior Executive Director, Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability
- Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent

XXIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 3:38 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 3:39 p.m.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **XXIV. APPROVAL OF WEIGHTING OF THE SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR EDUCATION YES!**

Dr. Hughes presented Approval of Weighting of the School Performance Indicators for Education YES!

Dr. Hughes said this item was presented to the Board at the January 11, 2005, meeting. He said the presentation included several options for calculating the School Performance Indicators of the Education YES!/Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) school report cards that will be issued this summer. He said this item was shared with the education community and very few concerns or suggestions were received. He said a slight modification has been made since the January meeting that makes the policy apply to all schools, not just those receiving an "F" or "D" for achievement.

**Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education approve the proposal that, in the school report cards to be issued in 2005, the inclusion of the grade for the School Performance Indicators may not serve to increase a school's composite grade by more than one grade category.**

**Ayes: Austin, Curtin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Turner, Weiser  
Absent: Bauer**

**The motion carried.**

### **XXV. DISCUSSION REGARDING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2006 NASBE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND AWARDS**

Dr. Hughes presented Discussion Regarding Nominations for the 2006 National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Board of Directors and Awards.

Dr. Hughes said State Boards of Education have been asked to submit nominations for the 2006 President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Area Director of NASBE. He said NASBE is also seeking nominations for Policy Leader of the Year, Distinguished Service, and Friend of Education Awards.

Mrs. Danhof, NASBE Delegate, said she has not received any nominations to be forwarded at this time. She invited Board members to submit nominations at the March 8, 2005, State Board of Education meeting.

This was a discussion only, and no action was required.

## XXVI. UPDATE ON EDUCATIONAL LEGISLATION

Mr. Robert Morris, Legislative Director, presented Update on Educational Legislation.

Mr. Morris said Mrs. Bauer and Mrs. Straus, members of the Board's Legislative Committee, met to discuss legislative priorities with Dr. Hughes, Mrs. Wolenberg, Mrs. Hamilton, and himself on February 3, 2005. He said the current list of legislative priorities includes principal certification, increasing the drop out age, required expulsions or zero tolerance, public school academy oversight, dual enrollment, pupil transportation act (Public Act 187), community youth workers, high school reform, intermediate school district partnership, repeal of antiquated or unfunded legislation, and school accreditation.

Mr. Morris said meetings are being held with legislators regarding school funding.

Mrs. Danhof asked if legislative priorities should include funding for a "data warehouse" to collect and store data required by the No Child Left Behind Act. Ms. Carnell cautioned about the possibility of an unfunded mandate.

Ms. Carnell said there is a Senate Watch publication listing all the legislation that has been introduced, and its status. She said that Board members may wish to receive the publication. Dr. Hughes said he will share a copy with Board members.

Mr. Morris said the Legislative Office is preparing a chart on bills and their status, which he can also share with Board members.

This was an update only, and no action was required.

## XXVII. DISCUSSION REGARDING SEARCH FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Straus presented Discussion Regarding Search for Superintendent of Public Instruction

This is a continuation of the discussion from the morning portion of the Regular Meeting.

After much discussion regarding timeline, criteria, review of applications, and input from stakeholders, it was the consensus of the Board that a Special Meeting be scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on February 23, 2005, to finalize the process to select the next Superintendent of Public Instruction.

#### XXVIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- N. Approval of Criteria for the 2005-2006 Michigan School Readiness Program Grants for Four-Year-Old Children at Risk of School Failure
- O. Appointment of Member to State Board of Education Standing Technical Advisory Council
- P. Appointment of a Committee of Scholars to Review the Miller College Application to Become a Teacher Preparation Institution

**Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda as follows:**

- N. approve the criteria for the 2005-2006 Michigan School Readiness Program Grants for Four-Year-Old Children At Risk of School Failure, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 24, 2005;**
- O. appoint Joseph A. Martineau to the Standing Technical Advisory Council for a four-year term ending June 30, 2009, as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 24, 2005; and**
- P. approve the appointment of Kathleen Jacobson, Jim Jeffery, John Poster, Mark Seals, and Chery Wagonlander as the Committee of Scholars for the review of the Miller College application for approval as a teacher preparation institution, as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 24, 2005.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Curtin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Turner, Weiser**  
**Absent: Bauer**

**The motion carried.**

#### XXIX. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

There were no additional comments by State Board of Education members.

XXX. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

A. Status of Data Collection – Mrs. Carolyn Curtin

Mrs. Curtin asked for a status report of data collection to comply with reporting requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act.

B. Highly Qualified Teacher Update – Mrs. Eileen Weiser

Mrs. Weiser requested a staff report and an outside presenter to address teacher quality and professional development.

C. Accountability Workbook Modifications – Mrs. Marianne McGuire

Mrs. McGuire requested that the No Child Left Behind Accountability Workbook issues of subgroup numbers and special education be addressed at the next meeting.

XXXI. FUTURE MEETING DATES

A. February 23, 2005 (Special Meeting)

B. March 8, 2005

C. April 12, 2005

D. May 10, 2005

E. June 14, 2005

XXXII. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Curtin  
Secretary